

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 076970

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: PFOR, GE, US

SUBJECT: RIAS JAMMING

REF: USBERLIN 0322 OF FEBRUARY 24, 1975

1. DEPARTMENT FOUND REFTEL TO BE HIGHLY USEFUL RESTATE-
MENT OF RIAS JAMMING PRACTICES FOLLOWED BY GDR. BEFORE
CONSIDERING POSSIBILITY OF DISCUSSING THIS MATTER WITH
GDR, HOWEVER, DEPARTMENT WISHES TO CONFIRM MORE PRECISELY
THE EXTENT TO WHICH JAMMING REPRESENTS A SERIOUS INTERFER-
ENCE OF MEDIUM WAVE RIAS BROADCASTS IN GDR. DEPARTMENT
UNDERSTANDS, FOR INSTANCE, THAT RECENT MONITORING OBSERVA-
SIONS INDICATE THAT PRESENT LEVEL OF JAMMING MAY BE
CONSIDERABLY LOWER THAN IN PREVIOUS YEARS. IT IS THUS
NECESSARY TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN POOR RECEPTION CAUSED
BY (A.) SIGNAL NOT INTENDED TO BE RECEIVED AT CONSIDERABLE
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DISTANCE FROM TRANSMITTER; (B.) INTERFERENCE BY STATIONS

OPERATING LEGALLY OR ILLEGALLY ON SAME OR NEARBY
FREQUENCIES; (C.) ATMOSPHERIC INTERFERENCE AND (D.)
DELIBERATE JAMMING.

2. DEPARTMENT WOULD BE APPRECIATIVE IF EMBASSY AND
MISSION WOULD ENDEAVOR TO DETERMINE WHAT EFFECTIVE AREA
OF COVERAGE BY RIAS ON AM BROADCASTS IS AND TO WHAT
EXTENT VARIOUS KINDS OF INTERFERENCE, BUT PARTICULARLY
JAMMING, LIMIT EFFECTIVENESS OF RIAS. IN SO FAR AS
PRACTICAL, EMBASSY OFFICERS SHOULD ATTEMPT TO UTILIZE
OPPORTUNITY TO TRAVEL IN GDR IN ORDER TO ASSESS
RECEPTION IN VARIOUS AREAS.

3. DEPARTMENT WILL DISCUSS JAMMING WITH RIAS DIRECTOR
GERT AND AMBASSADOR COOPER DURING THEIR FORTHCOMING
WASHINGTON VISIT AND WOULD APPRECIATE AN EARLY PRE-
LIMINARY ASSESSMENT FOR USE DURING THOSE CONSULTA-
TIONS. INGERSOLL

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